

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 remain pending in the application.

Interview

The Applicants thank the Examiner for granting and conducting an interview for the subject application on Jun 13, 2006.

During the interview the Applicants stressed the claims features eliminate have to use a plurality of codecs to process a plurality of signals for a plurality of processors. The claimed features rely on a single codec that is able to service a plurality of processors, thus reducing circuit complexity and cost. The Examiner agreed during the interview that the cited prior art uses a plurality of codecs to service a plurality of processors. The Examiner stated that such distinctions would be discussed with his Primary Examiner for further consideration. The following arguments are a summary of what was discussed during the interview.

Allowability of Claim 5

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indicating that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 5 is amended herein to be in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 7 over Huang

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by WO 97/23078 to Huang ("Huang"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1 and 2 recite a single coder/decoder to **selectively input one of a plurality of analog signals** and to selectively output an encoded signal to a plurality of processors. Claims 3-7 recite a single coder/decoder to **selectively input one of a plurality of digital signals** and to **selectively input one of a plurality of analog signal inputs** and a first plurality of processors

multiplexed to the single coder/decoder. Thus, claims 1-7 recite a system and method that relies on a single coder/decoder to selectively input one of a plurality of analog signals.

The Applicants made significant amendments to the claims in the Office action submitted December 2, 2005 to assist the Examiner in seeing the difference between Applicants' claimed features and Huang. However, the Examiner again uses Huang to reject the claimed features without refuting any of Applicants' arguments presented December 2, 2005. Applicants traverse the Official Action as incomplete because it fails to answer the material traversed. (See MPEP §707.07(f) "Where the applicant traverses any rejection, the examiner should, if he or she repeats the rejection, take note of the applicant's argument and answer the substance of it."). Thus, the Applicants respectfully assert that the Office Action is incomplete since failing to answer Applicants' arguments over Huang.

The Examiner alleges that Huang's coder/decoder 13 equates to the claimed single analog subsystem (See Office Action, page 2). Moreover, the Examiner alleges that Huang discloses a single coder/decoder to selectively input one of a plurality of analog signals at col. 8, lines 5-10 and figure 3a.

Huang lacks any columns. The Applicants assume the Examiner intended to site page 8, lines 5-10 and fig. 3a. Huang at page 8, lines 5-10 discloses "An analog subsystem 13, comprises analog trunks 14 and A/D and D/A converter pairs 15, is needed only if analog trunks are to be supported by the GC, and therefore may be considered optional." Huang, at the Examiner's own cited passage, discloses a pair of coder/decoders that each input a single analog signal. Thus, nothing within the Examiner cited passage within Huang, nor anywhere else within Huang, discloses a single coder/decoder to selectively input one of a plurality of analog signals, as recited by claims 1-4, 6 and 7.

As Applicants previously pointed out and the Examiner has failed to address, much less refute, Huang's analog subsystem 13 comprises two coder/decoders 15. Huang discloses two coder/decoders 15 connected to two analog trunks 14. However, Applicants are claims a single coder/decoder. Thus, taking either one of the coder/decoders by themselves, since Applicants are

claiming a single coder/decoder, neither of Huang's coder/decoders 15 taken individually selectively input one of a plurality of analog signals, as recited by claims 1-4, 6 and 7.

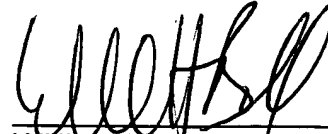
As Applicants previously pointed out, an important claimed feature is a single coder/decoder to process a plurality of analog signal that overcomes the deficiency within the art of having to use a plurality of coders/decoders to process a plurality of analog signal, such as disclosed by Huang. Hence, the rejection should be withdrawn because it fails to demonstrate that the applied reference discloses each and every element of the claim. See MPEP 2131. "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). "Anticipation cannot be predicated on teachings in the reference which are vague or based on conjecture." Studiengesellschaft Kohle mbH v. Dart Industries, Inc., 549 F. Supp. 716, 216 USPQ 381 (D. Del. 1982), aff'd., 726 F.2d 724, 220 USPQ 841 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

For these and other reasons, claims 1-4, 6 and 7 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William H. Bollman', written over a horizontal line.

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